

REMARKS

This is amendment is submitted in response to the NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE, NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY, INTERVIEW SUMMARY, EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT, and REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE of December 27, 2010. In the Examiner's Amendment, a typographical error was introduced unintentionally into claim 10. The amendment to claim 10, above, is intended to correct this error.

Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance

It is submitted that the characterization by the Examiner of the Townsend and Rhoads references suggests that these references are more closely related to the subject matter of the instant allowed claims than is actually the case. The Examiner indicates that Townsend teaches processing data relating to selected security features of a document, revising the selected security features, evaluating the relative ranking information the selected security features to determine a document security rating, and presenting the document security rating of the document on a display. In point of fact, however, Townsend teaches none of this. Townsend relates to a method of selecting a security model for an organization's computer network. Townsend has nothing whatsoever to do with documents, let alone a process by which the security of documents is evaluated. Townsend relates to computer system security, not document security.

Similarly, Rhoads Published U.S. App. 2002/0080996 does not disclose many of the elements of the claims. The allowed claims relate to a computer readable medium and a computer performed method for presenting a user with a comprehensive set of security features for a security document, for assisting the user in identifying and dealing with potential incompatibilities associated with selected security features, for selecting a combination of security features for a security document, and for determining a document security rating for a document having those security features.

The Rhoads system does not do any of this. Rather, Rhoads describes processes of embedding machine-readable, multi-bit binary information in a document in ways that do not make the binary information apparent to a human observer. As an example, Rhoads suggests embedding the value of a piece of currency in the currency image. As a further example, Rhoads suggests embedding the Social Security Number of an individual in an image, such as a watermark, on the individual's passport. Rhoads does not provide a quantified assessment of the security of a document. Rhoads does not address compatibility of various types of security features. The allowed claims in the instant application are clearly patentable over Rhoads for numerous reasons.

Conclusion

It is submitted that claim 10 should be amended to correct the typographical error, and that all of the claims in the instant application are allowable for the reasons advanced, above.

Respectfully submitted,

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